

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HONG K 07434 250244Z

15

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 AID-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 OMB-01 SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02

RSR-01 H-03 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 EUR-25 /181 W

----- 045787

R 250155Z JUL 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

SECSTATE WASHDC 7680

INFO USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 7434

OTTAWA AND CANBERRA FOR AG ATTACHE (S)

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE, FAS/G&F DIVISION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, CH

SUBJ: PRC WHEAT PURCHASES

1. CHINESE WHEAT PURCHASING FROM US FOR FY 1973-74  
DELIVERY ALREADY EXCEEDS 3 MILLION TONS, WITH  
ADDITIONAL PURCHASING HIGHLY POSSIBLE. THIS PURCHASING,  
TOGETHER WITH PROBABLE NEW PURCHASES FROM CANADA AND  
AUSTRALIA FOR SHIPMENT AFTER DELIVERIES UNDER CURRENT  
SALES AGREEMENTS ARE COMPLETED (OCTOBER AND DECEMBER,  
1973, RESPECTIVELY), INDICATES GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT  
FY 1973-74 WILL BE RECORD YEAR FOR PRC WHEAT IMPORTS  
(I.E., IN EXCESS OF 6 MILLION TONS).

2. AMONG POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS OF STEPPED-UP PURCHASING  
OF WHEAT (AND ALSO SOYBEANS AND CORN) ARE: (A) 1972  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HONG K 07434 250244Z

GRAIN HARVEST SHORTFALL MUCH LARGER THAN CLAIMED OR

ESTIMATED; (B) 1973 WHEAT HARVEST BELOW EXPECTATIONS AND POSSIBLY BELOW 1972 CROP (E VIMATED AT 26 MILLION TONS AND BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN ONLY SLIGHTLY AFFECTED BY 1972 DROUGHT); OR (C) LONG-TERM TREND IN CHINA'S WHEAT IMPORTS AT HIGHER LEVEL THAN IN 1960'S WHEN ANNUAL AVERAGE WAS 4.6 MILLION TONS. (AGOFFICER BELIEVES ELEMENTS OF ALL THREE ARE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS, ALTHOUGH RECENT PRESS REPORTS FROM PEKING CLAIM BUMPER OR GOOD WINTER WHEAT HARVESTS IN PROVINCES GROWING SLIGHTLY MORE THAN HALF OF THE WINTER WHEAT, IMPLYING THAT 1972-73 CROP WILL BE LARGER THAN 1971-72 CROP (REF B).

3. FOR OTTAWA AND CANBERRA: IN ORDER OBTAIN TIMELY INFORMATION HERE RE PRC GRAIN IMPORTS, WOULD APPRECIATE LATEST FIGURES RESPECIVE COUNTRY CY 1973 GRAIN EXPORTS TO PRC WITH BALANCE REMAINING OUTSTANDING CONTRACTS.

4. FOR FAS: WOULD APPRECIATE LATEST TOTALS OF WHEAT AND CORN INSPECTIONS FOR PRC.  
DEAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973HONGK07434  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730712/aaaaaips.tel  
**Line Count:** 81  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AGR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <27-Aug-2001 by willialc>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRC WHEAT PURCHASES  
**TAGS:** EAGR, ETRD, CH  
**To:** n/a  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005